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August 6, 2004

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Art Unit 1722

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/777,643; Filed: February 13, 2004
For: **Valve Gated Injection Molding System with Independent Flow Control**
Inventor: Babin *et al.*
Our Ref: 2107.0580001/TUM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO/SB/08a (4 sheets) listing **69** cited documents (**AA1-AR1, BA1-BF1, AA2-AR2, BA2-BF2, AA3-AJ3, BA3-BF3 and BA4-BE4**);
3. Form PTO/SB/08b (1 sheet) listing **7** cited documents (**CA1-CG1**);
4. A copy of the cited foreign patent documents and the non-patent literature documents (**BA1-BF1, BA2-BF2, BA3-BF3, BA4-BE4 and CA1-CG1**); and
5. One (1) return postcard.

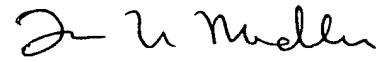
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
August 6, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Teresa U. Medler
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,933

TUM/BKB:kim
Enclosures
294592.1



In re application of:
Babin *et al.*
Appl. No.: 10/777,643
Filed: February 13, 2004
For: **Valve Gated Injection Molding System With Independent Flow Control**

Confirmation No.: 5386
Art Unit: 1722
Examiner: *To Be Assigned*
Atty. Docket: 2107.0580001/TUM

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Forms PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB08b are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB08b based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may

not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final

Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

- a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- 4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:

- a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.
- 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language documents BA1, BF1, BA2-BF2, BA3-BD3, BA4 and BC4 is provided by the English abstracts attached respectively thereto.
- 7. Copies of the documents BA1-BF1, BA2-BF2, BA3-BF3, BA4-BE4 and CA1-CG1 are submitted herewith.

8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. _____, filed _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

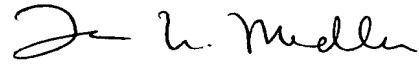
9. No copies of U.S. patents and patent application publications cited on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB08b are submitted in accordance with 1276 OG 55 because this application was filed after June 30, 2003.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB08b, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Teresa U. Medler
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,933

Date: 08/05/04

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete If Known

Application Number	10/777,643
Filing Date	February 13, 2004
First Named Inventor	Babin <i>et al.</i>
Art Unit	1722
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	2107.0580001

Sheet	1	of	5
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (If Known)			
	AA1	US-3,374,502	03-26-1968	Lazzara	
	AB1	US-3,390,433	07-02-1968	Barnett <i>et al.</i>	
	AC1	US-3,819,313	06-25-1974	Josephsen <i>et al.</i>	
	AD1	US-4,279,582	07-21-1981	Osuna-Diaz	
	AE1	US-4,380,426	04-19-1983	Wiles	
	AF1	US-4,420,452	12-13-1983	van Dalen <i>et al.</i>	
	AG1	US-4,723,898	02-09-1988	Tsutsumi	
	AH1	US-4,863,369	09-05-1983	Schad <i>et al.</i>	
	AI1	US-5,112,212	05-12-1992	Akselrud <i>et al.</i>	
	AJ1	US-5,141,696	08-25-1992	Osuna-Diaz	
	AK1	US-5,149,547	09-22-1992	Gill	
	AL1	US-5,192,555	03-09-1993	Arnott	
	AM1	US-5,238,378	08-24-1993	Gellert	
	AN1	US-5,260,012	11-09-1993	Arnott	
	AO1	US-5,299,928	04-05-1994	Gellert	
	AP1	US-5,389,315	02-14-1995	Yabushita	
	AQ1	US-5,478,520	12-26-1995	Kasai <i>et al.</i>	
	AR1	US-5,556,582	09-17-1996	Kazmer	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)				
	BA1	DE 198 02 048 A1	07-22-1999	Baudisch		
	BB1	EP 0 624 449 A2	11-17-1994	von Buren		
	BC1	EP 0 901 896 A2	03-17-1999	Lee <i>et al.</i>		
	BD1	EP 0 967 063 A1	12-29-1999	Moss <i>et al.</i>		
	BE1	EP 1 013 395 A1	06-28-2000	Kalemba <i>et al.</i>		
	BF1	JP 11-5232	01-12-1999	Mikio <i>et al.</i>		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete If Known	
				Application Number	10/777,643
				Filing Date	February 13, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Babin <i>et al.</i>
				Art Unit	1722
				Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	2107.0580001
Sheet	2	of	5		

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (If Known)			
	AA2	US-5,605,707	02-25-1997	Ibar	
	AB2	US-5,762,855	06-09-1998	Betters <i>et al.</i>	
	AC2	US-5,766,654	06-16-1998	Groleau	
	AD2	US-5,773,038	06-30-1998	Hettinga	
	AE2	US-5,849,236	12-15-1998	Tatham	
	AF2	US-5,919,492	07-06-1999	Tarr <i>et al.</i>	
	AG2	US-6,045,740	04-04-2000	Gorlich	
	AH2	US-6,062,840	05-16-2000	Lee <i>et al.</i>	
	AI2	US-6,090,318	07-18-2000	Bader	
	AJ2	US-6,099,767	08-08-2000	Tarr <i>et al.</i>	
	AK2	US-6,228,309	05-08-2001	Jones <i>et al.</i>	
	AL2	US-6,245,278	06-12-2001	Lausenhammer <i>et al.</i>	
	AM2	US-6,464,909	10-15-2002	Kazmer <i>et al.</i>	
	AN2	US-6,254,377	07-03-2001	Kazmer <i>et al.</i>	
	AO2	US-6,261,075	07-17-2001	Lee <i>et al.</i>	
	AP2	US-6,287,107	09-11-2001	Kazmer <i>et al.</i>	
	AQ2	US-6,294,122	09-25-2001	Moss <i>et al.</i>	
	AR2	US-6,309,208	10-30-2001	Kazmer <i>et al.</i>	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)			
	BA2	JP 58-142833	08-25-1983	Takeshi <i>et al.</i>	
	BB2	JP 60-212321	10-24-1985	Toshitsugu	
	BC2	JP 6-166072	06-14-1994	Murata	
	BD2	JP 63-166511	07-09-1988	Kazutoshi	
	BE2	JP 6-8285	01-18-1994	Toshio	
	BF2	JP 7-266379	10-17-1995	Rikuro	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete If Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	10/777,643
(Use as many sheets as necessary)				Filing Date	February 13, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Babin <i>et al.</i>
				Art Unit	1722
				Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	2107.0580001
Sheet	3	of	5		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)				
	BA3	JP 7-40400	02-10-1995	Takeda		
	BB3	JP 9-141688	06-03-1997	Araki		
	BC3	JP 9-1600	01-07-1997	Takeo		
	BD3	JP 9-39033	02-10-1997	Teizo <i>et al.</i>		
	BE3	WO 98/56564	12-17-1998	Tarr <i>et al.</i>		
	BF3	WO 99/54109	10-28-1999	Moss <i>et al.</i>		

Examiner Signature _____ Date Considered _____

**EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M PEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.*

form with next communication to applicant. *Applicant's unique claim designation number (optional). *Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). *For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. *Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. *Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Transaction is attached.

here in English language. Translation is not available.
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<p style="text-align: center;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</p>			
<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p>		<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.</i></p>	
		Complete If Known	
		Application Number	10/777,643
		Filing Date	February 13, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Babin <i>et al.</i>
		Art Unit	1722
		Examiner Name	<i>To Be Assigned</i>
		Attorney Docket Number	2107.0580001
Sheet	4	of	5

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)				
	BA4	WO 00/35655	06-22-2000	Moeser		
	BB4	WO 01/21377	03-29-2001	Moss <i>et al.</i>		
	BC4	WO 01/36174	05-25-2001	Moeser		
	BD4	WO 01/60580	08-23-2001	Moss <i>et al.</i>		
	BE4	WO 02/36324	05-10-2002	Doughty <i>et al.</i>		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M PEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. *Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). *See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). *For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁴Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁵Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

				Complete If Known
<i>Application Number</i>				10/777,643
<i>Filing Date</i>				February 13, 2004
<i>First Named Inventor</i>				Babin <i>et al.</i>
<i>Art Unit</i>				1722
<i>Examiner Name</i>				<i>To Be Assigned</i>
Sheet	5	of	5	Attorney Docket Number
				2107.0580001

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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	CA1	"The 5 Step Process - The 5 Step Process is fast becoming an industry standard method for diagnosing and isolating cavity variations in multi-cavity injection molds." Beaumont Technologies, Inc. http://www.meltflipper.com/fivestep/fivestep/html , dated March 14, 2004.	
	CB1	Ewikon Hotrunner systems for large parts, Product Brochure, www.ewikon.com , May 2000.	
	CC1	Cavity pressure and temperature sensor 6190A, Product Brochure "Sensors and Data Acquisition For Injection Molding Cavity Pressure and Temperature Sensor and Dataflow", Kistler Japan Co., Ltd http://www.a-tex.co.jp/plastics/data/243.pdf , 2003.	
	CD1	Knights, Mikell, "Micromolding Sizing Up the Challenges", <i>Plastics Technology</i> http://www.plastictechnology.com/articles/200104fa1.html , April 2001.	
	CE1	SG-Link™ Wireless Strain Gauge System, Product Brochure, http://www.microstrain.com/SG-link.htm , MicroStrain ®	
	CF1	Nunnery, Len, "Tooling Innovations for Thermoset Molding", Bulk Molding Compounds, Inc. http://www.bulkmolding.com/technical_papers/tooling_thermosetmolding.pdf , 2003	
	CG1	"Pressure and Temperature Control of Multicavity Injection Mold with Hydraulic Valve Gate Hot Mold System," No. 301, p.333, Research Disclosure, Kenneth Mason Publications, Hampshire, GB, May 1989, XP 000052496, ISSN: 0374-4353.	

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